



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/659,121	09/10/2003	Youssef Hamadi	MS1-1636US	3556
22971 7590 04/09/2008 MICROSOFT CORPORATION ONE MICROSOFT WAY REDMOND, WA 98052-6399				
EXAMINER				
LAM, HUNG H				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2622				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/09/2008		ELECTRONIC		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

roks@microsoft.com  
ntovar@microsoft.com  
a-rydore@microsoft.com

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/659,121

**Applicant(s)**

HAMADI, YOUSSEF

**Examiner**

HUNG H. LAM

**Art Unit**

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 September 2003.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S508)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Specification*

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by He (US-2004/0,118,916).

With regarding **claim 1**, He discloses a method comprising:

requesting identification of one or more objects in association with a capture of an image (Fig. 2; RFID block; abstract; [0010-0011; 0027-0029; 0032-0033]); and  
receiving an identifier, responsive to the requesting operation, the identifier identifying an object in the image ([0029-0033]).

With regarding **claim 2**, He discloses the method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the objects is an active object, and the identifier of the active object is received from the active object (abstract; [0029-0033]: object inherently active in order for the RFID block to activate the object for receiving RFID signals

With regarding **claim 3**, He discloses the method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the objects is a delegate object, and the identifier of the delegate object is received from another object (abstract; [0005-0007]).

With regarding **claim 4**, He discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising: capturing the image, wherein an image capture device performs the requesting, receiving, and capturing operations (Figs. 2-3; imaging 14; abstract; [0012; 0025; 0039; 0044]).

With regarding **claim 5**, He discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising: associating the identifier with the image ([0005-0008; 0020-0024]).

With regarding **claim 6**, He discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising: extracting a model associated with the identifier from a model library (Fig. 6; extract data module 616 and/or comparator module 608; abstract; [0056-0058]).

With regarding **claim 7**, He discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising:

extracting a model associated with the identifier from a model library (Fig. 6; extract data module 616 and/or comparator module 608; abstract; [0056-0058]); and  
evaluating the image using the model to determine whether the object is in the image (face detection module 612 and/or comparator module 608; abstract; [0056-0058]).

With regarding **claim 8**, He discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising:  
identifying a sub-portion of a model library based on the identifier ([0057]).

With regarding **claim 9**, He discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising:  
identifying a sub-portion of a model library based on the identifier ([0051-0057]);  
and

evaluating the image using a plurality of models in the sub-portion of the model library to identify objects in the image ([0012-0013; 0051-0057; 0060-0063]).

With regarding **claim 10**, He discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising:  
associatively storing with the image one or more parameters relating to the object identified in the image ([0005-0008; 0020-0024]).

With regarding **claim 11**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 1. Therefore, claim 11 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 1.

With regarding **claim 12**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 2. Therefore, claim 12 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 2.

With regarding **claim 13**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 3. Therefore, claim 13 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 3.

With regarding **claim 14**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 4. Therefore, claim 14 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 4.

With regarding **claim 15**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 5. Therefore, claim 15 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 5.

With regarding **claim 16**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 6. Therefore, claim 16 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 6.

With regarding **claim 17**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 7. Therefore, claim 17 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 7.

With regarding **claim 18**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 8. Therefore, claim 18 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 8.

With regarding **claim 19**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 9. Therefore, claim 19 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 9.

With regarding **claim 20**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 10. Therefore, claim 20 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 10.

With regarding **claim 21**, He discloses a system comprising:

a signaling module (Fig. 2; RFID block) coupled to a digital capture device (imaging engine 14) requesting identification of one or more objects in association with a capture of an image (abstract; [0010-0011; 0027-0029; 0032-0033]);

the signaling module further receiving an identifier identifying an object in the image, responsive to requesting identification ([0029-0033]).

With regarding **claim 22**, He discloses the system of claim 21 wherein at least one of the objects is an active object, and the identifier of the active object is received from the active object (abstract; [0029-0033]: object inherently active in order for the RFID block to activate the object for receiving RFID signals).

With regarding **claim 23**, He discloses the system of claim 21 wherein at least one of the objects is a delegate object, and the identifier of the delegate object is received from another object (abstract; [0005-0007]).

With regarding **claim 24**, He discloses the system of claim 21 further comprising:  
an image capture module capturing the image (Figs. 2-3; imaging 14).

With regarding **claim 25**, He discloses the system of claim 21 further comprising:  
a registration module associating the identifier with the image ([0005-0008; 0020-0024]).

With regarding **claim 26**, He discloses the system of claim 21 further comprising:  
a model extractor extracting a model associated with the identifier from a model library  
(Fig. 6; extract data module 616 and/or comparator module 608; abstract; [0056-0058]).

With regarding **claim 27**, He discloses the system of claim 21 further comprising:  
a model extractor extracting a model associated with the identifier from a model library  
(Fig. 6; extract data module 616 and/or comparator module 608; abstract; [0056-0058]); and

an object matching module evaluating the image using the model to determine  
whether the object is in the image (face detection module 612 and/or comparator  
module 608; abstract; [0056-0058]).



With regarding **claim 28**, He discloses the system of claim 21 further comprising:  
a model extractor identifying a sub-portion of a model library based on the identifier ([0057]).

With regarding **claim 29**, He discloses the system of claim 21 further comprising:  
a model extractor identifying a sub-portion of a model library based on the identifier ([0051-0057]); and

an object matching module evaluating the image using a plurality of models in the sub-portion of the model library to identify objects in the image ([0012-0013; 0051-0057; 0060-0063]).

With regarding **claim 30**, He discloses the system of claim 21 further comprising:  
an image storage module associatively storing with the image one or more parameters relating to the object identified in the image ([0005-0008; 0020-0024]).

With regarding **claim 31**, He discloses a method comprising:  
receiving a request for identification from an image capture device (abstract; [0034-0035]);

collecting identification information associated with an active object ([0036-0038]); and

transmitting the identification information from the active object to the image capture device ([0038-0043]).

With regarding **claim 32**, He discloses the method of claim 31 further comprising:  
collecting identification information associated with a delegate object of the active object (abstract; [0036-0043]); and  
transmitting the identification information associated with the delegate object from the active object to the image capture device ([0038-0043]).

With regarding **claim 33**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 31. Therefore, claim 33 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 31.

With regarding **claim 34**, the claim contains the same limitations as claimed in claim 32. Therefore, claim 34 is analyzed and rejected as discussed under claim 32.

With regarding **claim 35**, He discloses a system comprising:  
a detection module of an active object that receives a request for identification from an image capture device ([0005-0009]);  
a collection module of the active object that collects identification information associated with the active object ([0005-0023]: identification information associated with the active object is inherently collected for transmission); and  
a transmission module of the active object that transmits the identification information to the image capture device (Fig. 2;abstract; [0012-0023; 0041-0046]:

active object inherently include a transmission module to transmit RFID to RFID block 12).

With regarding **claim 36**, He discloses a system of claim 35 wherein the collection module further collects identification information associated with a delegate object of the active object ([0005-0023]) and transmitting the identification information associated with the delegate object from the active object to the image capture device ([0012-0023; 0041-0046]).

### ***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a) Bellis (US-6,598,791) discloses a self-checkout system having item security verification.

b) Maloney (US-6,707,381) discloses an object tracking method and system with object identification and verification.

c) Maloney (US-7,336,174) discloses an object tracking system with automated system control and user identification.

d) Banavar (US-7,287,694) discloses a system for context-based automated product identification and verification.

e) Sigel (US-6,545,705) discloses a camera with object recognition.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG H. LAM whose telephone number is (571)272-7367. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8AM - 5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, LIN YE can be reached on 571-272-7372. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HL  
03/30/08

/Nhan T. Tran/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2622

